

## Message Text

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71

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DRC-01 /071 W

----- 117411

R 171955Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2459

UNCLAS MANAGUA 3763

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, NU

SUBJECT: MINIMUM WAGE INCREASED TWENTY PERCENT

1. RESPONDING TO INFLATIONARY PRESSURES, THE GON ON SEPTEMBER 14 ANNOUNCED THAT THE MINIMUM WAGE WILL BE INCREASED TWENTY PERCENT. THE NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE COMMISSION TOOK THE ACTION AFTER GENERAL ANASTASION SOMOZA, ACTING AS PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY COUNCIL, REQUESTED AN INCREASE IN A LETTER DATED SEPTEMBER 12. HE ANNOUNCED THE NEC WOULD TAKE THIS ACTION AT HIS AUGUST 29 PRESS CONFERENCE (MANAGUA 3604). THE NEW RATE WILL TAKE EFFECT AS SOON AS IT IS OFFICIALLY PUBLISHED WHICH IS EXPECTED THIS WEEK.

2. THE MAJOR IMPACT OF THE INCREASE WILL BE IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR WHERE THE VAST MAJORITY OF FARM LABORERS RECEIVE THE MINIMUM WAGE WHICH NOW WILL BE UPPEDED FROM C\$9.20 TO C\$11.04 PER EIGHT HOUR WORK DAY. LABOR MINISTER NAVARRO RICHARDSON SAID HE WILL BE MEETING WITH THE COTTON AND COFFEE PRODUCERS ASSOCIATIONS AS SOON AS THE NEW RATE IS PROMULGATED TO ENCOURAGE ITS IMPLEMENTATION.

3. MOST INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS IN MANAGUA ALREADY RECEIVE PAY ABOVE THE MINIMUM WAGE AND WILL BE UNAFFECTED BY THE NEW RATE. UNSKILLED LABORERS (PEONES) AND SOME SERVICES EMPLOYEES (WAITERS, FOR INSTANCE) AND DOMESTICS, HOWEVER, WILL BENEFIT. THIS SHOULD IN PARTICULAR, HELP TO

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EASE DISCONTENT AMONG ROAD WORKERS EMPLOYED BY THE

NATIONAL DISTRICT, SOME OF WHOM ANNOUNED SPORATIC STRIKES  
LAST WEEK IN PROTEST AGAINST THE RECENT BUS FARE INCREASE  
(MANAGUA 3749).  
SHELTON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** WAGE RATES, MINIMUM WAGE  
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**Draft Date:** 17 SEP 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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